School of Economics

Honours Degree in Economics

Students who complete an Honours Degree in Economics are much better placed in the labour market than students in possession of an ordinary Bachelor’s degree. Employers including the Federal and State Treasury, and the Reserve Bank of Australia often recruit Honours Graduates or offer cadetships for students contemplating Honours. Graduates employment prospects in the private sector are also enhanced, as international consulting firms usually require an Honours degree.

For those contemplating further postgraduate study an Honours degree is a necessary first step. Students with a first class Honours degree from Adelaide have performed well in Ph.D. programs in Australia, the United States and the U.K.

Economics
Students completing the core courses to a high standard and meet the requirements for their undergraduate degree are encouraged by the School of Economics to apply to undertake a fourth, or Honours year.

Honours Prerequisites
Level I
Principles of Microeconomics I
Principles of Macroeconomics I
Business Economic Statistics I
Introduction to Mathematical Economics (Advanced) I*

Level II
Intermediate Microeconomics A II
Intermediate Mathematical Economics II
Intermediate Econometrics II
Intermediate Macroeconomic II
Economic Statistical Theory II
Intermediate Microeconomics B II

Level III
Advanced Mathematical Economics III
Macroeconomics III
International Economic History III
Econometrics III

A minimum credit for each of the above Level II and III courses is necessary.

* Students who do not have a satisfactory mark for the Advanced course in the Mathematics test at the beginning of semester 1 should take Introduction to Mathematical Economics (Basic) I first.

Bachelor Degree to Economic Honours Study Path

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<th>Year 1</th>
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<td>Principles of Microeconomics I</td>
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<td>Econometrics III</td>
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Further level III Economics Courses can be chosen from the following list:

- Development Economics III
- International Finance III
- International Trade III
- Money, Banking and Financial Markets III
- Public Economics III
- Resource and Environmental Economics III
- Game Theory III
- Industrial Organisation III
- Sports Economics III

It is recommended you contact your Faculty/School to ensure you are meeting the requirements for your Undergraduate Degree.

The program rules can be viewed in the University Calendar:
The Honours Year

Honours students are required to complete three compulsory courses:

- ECON 7122 Macroeconomics IV
- ECON 7121 Microeconomic Theory IV
- ECON 7204 Econometrics IV

And two elective courses:

- ECON 7102 International Trade IV
- ECON 7223 Advanced Time Series Econometrics IV
- ECON 7115 Public Economics IV
- ECON 7067 Economic Development IV
- ECON 7229 Behavioural Game Theory and Experiments IV

Special Topics are often offered dependent on visiting academic staff.

Students will also write a thesis in the second semester. The purposes of the thesis are:

- To encourage students to undertake independent economic research and to foster the necessary skills.
- To provide the means by which students can demonstrate an ability to undertake economic research at a professional standard and communicate the findings in a professionally acceptable way.
- To further general expertise in economics.

The thesis writing component of the Honours program is what separates it from some of the Masters and undergraduate programs. The writing of the thesis will demonstrate student’s independent research skills.

Job Opportunities

The School of Economics currently have past Honours students working in many areas including:

- The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission – (ACCC) [http://www.accc.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/672225](http://www.accc.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/672225)

Further Study

An Economics Honours degree can be the necessary starting point to further study. Students can use their Honours year as a starting point to a M. Phil or a Ph.D.

We have past Honours students completing PhD’s at various universities throughout Australia, the UK and the United States.

Scholarships/ Cadetships

There are various Scholarships available for Honours students. Scholarships are both income based and thesis topic specific.

Cadetships offer financial support to students studying their Honours year and will often lead to a full time job.


Further Information

Economics Program Adviser
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